

should have a study abroad experience sometime during college, but only 1 percent of students from the United States currently study abroad each year;

Whereas study abroad programs help people from the United States to be more informed about the world and to develop the cultural awareness necessary to avoid offending individuals from other countries;

Whereas a National Geographic global literacy survey found that 87 percent of students in the United States between the ages of 18 and 24 cannot locate Iraq on a world map, 83 percent cannot find Afghanistan, 58 percent cannot find Japan, and 11 percent cannot even find the United States;

Whereas studying abroad exposes students from the United States to valuable global knowledge and cultural understanding and forms an integral part of their education;

Whereas Congress recognized through the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.) that the security, stability, and economic vitality of the United States in an increasingly complex global age depend largely upon having a globally competent citizenry and the availability of experts specializing in world regions, foreign languages, and international affairs;

Whereas the Coalition for International Education, an ad hoc group of higher education organizations with interests in the international education programs of the Department of Education, and Government Accountability Office reports have found that Federal agencies, educational institutions, and corporations in the United States are suffering from a shortage of professionals with international knowledge and foreign language skills;

Whereas, according to the Coalition for International Education, institutions of higher education in the United States are struggling to graduate enough students with the language skills and cultural competence necessary to meet the current demands of business, government, and educational institutions;

Whereas a survey done by the Institute for the International Education of Students shows that studying abroad influences subsequent educational experiences, decisions to expand or change academic majors, and decisions to attend graduate school;

Whereas substantive research literature demonstrates that some of the core values and skills of higher education are enhanced by participation in study abroad programs;

Whereas study abroad programs not only open doors to foreign language learning, but also empower students to better understand themselves and others through a comparison of cultural values and ways of life;

Whereas study abroad programs for students from the United States can provide specialized training and practical experiences not available at institutions in the United States;

Whereas a blue ribbon task force of NAFSA: Association of International Educators, a global association of individuals dedicated to advancing international education and exchange, found that a national effort to promote study abroad programs is needed to address a serious deficit in global competence in the United States;

Whereas the bipartisan, federally-appointed Commission on the Abraham Lincoln Study Abroad Fellowship Program, established pursuant to section 104 of the Miscellaneous Appropriations and Offsets Act, 2004 (division H of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2004 (Public Law 108-199; 118 Stat. 435)), is scheduled to make recommendations by December 1, 2005, for a national study abroad program to meet this need: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates 2006 as the “Year of Study Abroad”;

(2) encourages secondary schools, institutions of higher learning, businesses, and government programs to promote and expand study abroad opportunities; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to—

(A) support initiatives to promote and expand study abroad opportunities; and

(B) observe the “Year of Study Abroad” with appropriate ceremonies, programs, and other activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 309—EXPRESSING SYMPATHY FOR THE PEOPLE OF JORDAN IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE DEADLY TERRORIST ATTACKS IN AMMAN ON NOVEMBER 9, 2005

Mr. FRIST (for himself, Mr. REID, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. BROWNBACK, and Mr. CHAFEE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 309

Whereas the United States and a broad international coalition are engaged in a Global War on Terrorism;

Whereas on November 9, 2005, a series of explosions struck 3 hotels in Amman, Jordan, killing at least 56 people and injuring at least 115 others;

Whereas the terrorist attacks on Amman, Jordan, were senseless and barbaric acts carried out against innocent civilians;

Whereas Al Qaeda in Iraq has claimed responsibility for the terrorist attacks in Amman, Jordan;

Whereas the people and Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan have been targeted in several attempted terrorist attacks over the past few years;

Whereas the people of Jordan have a long and enduring friendship with the people of the United States and their close cooperation in political, economic, and humanitarian endeavors has benefitted both nations and the people of the Middle East region;

Whereas the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan is a stalwart ally of the United States in the global war against terrorism;

Whereas the people of the United States stand in solidarity with the people of Jordan in fighting terrorism;

Whereas the Government of the United States immediately condemned the terrorist attacks and extended the support and condolences of the people of the United States to the people of Jordan; and

Whereas on September 12, 2001, in a letter to President George W. Bush condemning the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the United States, King Abdullah of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan stated that “the people of Jordan join the people of the United States in our absolute condemnation of the terrorist aggression against your nation . . . our hearts reach out to the victims and their families, and we honor the selfless men and women who have risked their lives to aid the injured and suffering . . . be assured that the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, its leaders and people stand with you against the perpetrators of these terrorist atrocities. We denounce the violence and hatred they represent.”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) condemns, in the strongest terms, the senseless and barbaric terrorist attacks on the innocent people of Amman, Jordan, on November 9, 2005;

(2) expresses its condolences to the families and friends of those individuals who were

killed in the attacks and expresses its sympathies to those individuals who have been injured;

(3) expresses the strong and continued solidarity of the people and Government of the United States with the people and Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan as they recover from these inhumane attacks;

(4) declares its readiness to support and assist the authorities of Jordan in their efforts to bring to justice those individuals responsible for the attacks; and

(5) calls upon the international community to renew and strengthen efforts to—

(A) defeat terrorists by dismantling terrorist networks and exposing the violent and nihilistic ideology of terrorism;

(B) increase international cooperation to advance personal and religious freedoms, ethnic and racial tolerance, political liberty and pluralism, and economic prosperity; and

(C) combat the social injustice, oppression, poverty, and extremism that bolsters terrorism.

SENATE RESOLUTION 310—HONORING THE LIFE, LEGACY, AND EXAMPLE OF ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER YITZHAK RABIN ON THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS DEATH

Mr. LAUTENBERG (for himself, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. CHAFEE, and Mr. BROWNBACK) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 310

Whereas Yitzhak Rabin was born March 1, 1922, in Jerusalem;

Whereas Yitzhak Rabin volunteered for the Palmach, the elite unit of the Haganah (predecessor of the Israeli Defense Forces), and served for 27 years, including during the 1948 War of Independence, the 1956 Suez War, and as Chief of Staff in the June 1967 Six Day War;

Whereas, in 1975, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin signed the interim agreement with Egypt (Sinai II) which laid the groundwork for the 1979 Camp David Peace Treaty between Israel and Egypt;

Whereas Yitzhak Rabin served as Ambassador to the United States from 1968–1973, Minister of Defense from 1984–1990, and Prime Minister from 1974–1977 and from 1992 until his assassination in 1995;

Whereas, on September 13, 1993, in Washington, D.C., Yitzhak Rabin signed the Declaration of Principles framework agreement between Israel and the Palestinians;

Whereas, upon the signing of the Declaration of Principles, Yitzhak Rabin said to the Palestinian people: “We say to you today in a loud and clear voice: Enough of blood and tears. Enough! We harbor no hatred toward you. We have no desire for revenge. We, like you, are people who want to build a home, plant a tree, love, live side by side with you—in dignity, empathy, as human beings, as free men.”;

Whereas Yitzhak Rabin received the 1994 Nobel Prize for Peace for his vision and bravery as a peacemaker, saying at the time: “There is only one radical means of sanctifying human lives. Not armored plating, or tanks, or planes, or concrete fortifications. The one radical solution is peace.”;

Whereas, on October 26, 1994, Yitzhak Rabin and King Hussein of Jordan signed a peace treaty between Israel and Jordan;

Whereas, on November 4, 1995, Yitzhak Rabin was brutally assassinated after attending a peace rally in Tel Aviv, where his last words were: “I have always believed that